



MARCH - APRIL 2023

CFW Connector

Greetings from the Commission

Greetings,

This newsletter is designed to inform, engage and empower women and girls in Prince George's County. In honor of Women's History Month, this issue features news and information about notable women making a difference in history, and currently in our state. We welcome your feedback on this newsletter and other programs of the CFW.

Empowered Women Empower Other Women

Sincerely,

Prince George's County Commission for Women

Honoring Women on US Coins

The U.S. Mint has selected five women as the 2024 honorees for the American Women Quarters Program:

- Cuban American singer Celia Cruz, known as the Queen of Salsa was one of the 20th century's most celebrated Latin music artists, having recorded over 80 albums.
- The Honorable Patsy Takemoto Mink of Hawaii was the first woman of color to serve in Congress.
- Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, was a Civil War-era surgeon, women's rights advocate and abolitionist
- Zitkala-Ša, also known as Gertrude Simmons Bonnin, was a writer, composer, educator and political activist for Native Americans' right to U.S. citizenship and other civil rights
- Rev. Pauli Murray, was a poet, writer, activist, lawyer, and the first African American woman ordained an Episcopal priest.



Learn More:

<https://www.usmint.gov/news/press-releases/mint-announces-2024-american-women-quarters-program-honorees>

Young Prince George's Women Making a Difference

- Young leaders in the **Alsobrooks Youth Leadership Institute** attend events throughout the County to serve as youth ambassadors of County Government (pictured to the right)
- **Phoenix Averyire**, who appears in the series "Abbott Elementary," trained with local acting coaches right here in Prince George's. Read more here: <https://dcist.com/story/23/02/07/teen-actor-abbott-elementary-prince-georges-county-ties/>



Trailblazing Women in Prince George's County

Elizabeth Hewitt



Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Esquire is an accomplished attorney, a tireless leader, a prolific servant of the public interest and a proud resident of Prince George's County. Ms. Hewlett has served as Chair of the Prince George's County 2020 Census Complete Count Committee. She also has served on the regional Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Board of Directors, the regional Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Metropolitan Development Policy Committee, the Governor's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission, and the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Commission on Transportation Funding.

Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Esq. was appointed Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board in June 2011 and reappointed in June 2013. She previously served as Chairman of the Planning Board from 1995 to 2006. She was the first African American and the first woman to serve as Chair of the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). After retiring from this role, President Biden appointed her as a Commissioner of the National Capital Planning Commission in the fall of 2022.

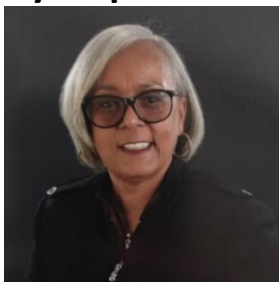
Tonia Wellons



Tonia Wellons is the President & CEO of the Greater Washington Community Foundation, the largest public foundation in the Greater Washington region. Serving as conduit for more than \$1.3 Billion in donations since 1973, the Foundation's mission is to Build Thriving Communities by galvanizing philanthropy and investing locally to maximize community impact. Leading an organization with a staff of 30, \$335 million in assets under management, and \$60 million in annual grants, Tonia also serves as chief development officer, and works with the Board of Trustees and staff to determine strategic priorities.

Tonia has successfully launched and led programmatic and development efforts for several key regional initiatives at The Community Foundation, including VoicesDMV, the Resilience Fund, and the Partnership to End Homelessness. Ms. Wellons has over 20 years of experience spanning senior leadership roles in both locally-oriented and international organizations, including the World Bank Group and the Peace Corps. Tonia also serves as a Fellow at the University of Maryland with the Lab for Applied Social Sciences and Research (LASSR) and the DO Good Institute.

Mary Hopkins Navies



Mary Hopkins-Navies is an advocate for education. She is the President and CEO of Hopkins Navies Management, Inc. For the past 23 years, she has owned and operated 8 McDonald's restaurants in Prince George's County, Maryland, which employ more than 500 people.

Hopkins-Navies has previously served as a Commissioner on the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, under the appointment of Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III, and on the Prince George's County Redevelopment Authority under the appointment of County Executive Wayne Curry.

Throughout her career, Hopkins-Navies has also been an engaged community activist and philanthropist. She served seven years on the Ronald McDonald House Board of Directors. She was instrumental in helping community non-profits receive Ronald McDonald House grants. Additionally, she has raised money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation Race for the Cure and the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. She participated in a mentoring program at Fairmont Heights High School in Capitol Heights, Maryland.

Llamiliet Gutierrez



Llamiliet Gutierrez was recently appointed by Governor Larry Hogan to serve as a Judge on Prince Georges County District Court.

Judge Gutierrez began her career as a prosecutor with the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office in March 2021. Prior to joining the State's Attorney's Office, she served as the Executive Director of the Amara Legal Center from 2018-2021. At the Amara Legal Center, she was responsible for managing staff, overseeing office operations, and recruiting new hires.

Before her tenure at the Amara Legal Center, Ms. Gutierrez worked as an Assistant Public Defender in Prince George's County. She has also recently served on the Human Rights Commission and was appointed by County Executive Alsobrooks.

In addition to her extensive professional experience, Ms. Gutierrez has also served in various judicial roles. She served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Nicholas E. Rattal of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County from 2012-2013. Ms. Gutierrez attended Lewis & Clark Law School.

Making a Difference: Workshops at the Prince George's County Libraries

- **Wednesdays throughout March: 4:30pm – 5:30pm** – Do you need to earn community service hours? Join a **Teen Action Group!** Come make a difference in your community, gain friends from around the area, and make your voice heard in your public library! Ages 13 and up. Locations: Largo-Kettering, Greenbelt, and South Bowie Branches.
- **Tuesday, March 07: 7:00pm - 8:00pm** –Join the Prince George's County Office of Human Rights and the Prince George's County Memorial Library System in a critical discussion for our time, **Voting: Democracy in Action – What is Democracy?** Virtual Workshop: <https://www.pgcmlls.info/event/7932126>
- **Tuesday, March 14: 4:30pm – 5:30pm** - Become a community advocate! You will learn the histories of different advocates and social movements. Identify issues in your community and develop strategies to build a coalition. Develop your advocate/organizer identity and collaborate with other community members to create community-engaged writing projects (ages 16-23). **Community Justice: Writing and Organizing for the Public** at the Hyattsville Branch in the Learning Lab.

Learn More through Books, Films, and Conversation



Learn more about notable women in history and discuss with other community members through the following events:

- **Monday, March 06: 2:00pm - 3:00pm** – Book Discussion. Have a lively discussion about "Atomic City Girls" by Janet Beard. Find a copy at your library branch! Beltsville Branch of PGPL.
- **Wednesday, March 08: 7:00pm - 8:30pm** – Book Discussion. Have a lively discussion about "Great Circle" by Maggie Shipstead. Find a copy at your library branch! Virtual event: <https://www.pgcmlls.info/event/7892298>
- **Monday, March 13: 7:00pm - 8:30pm** – Film Screening. The women known as Madan Sara in Haiti work tirelessly to buy, distribute, and sell food and other essentials in markets throughout the country. Learn more at the Hyattsville Library Branch. The screening will be followed by a Q&A session with the film's creator and executive director, Etant Dupain.

Learn More through Interactive History and Art

Saturday, January 28-Sunday, March 26, 2023

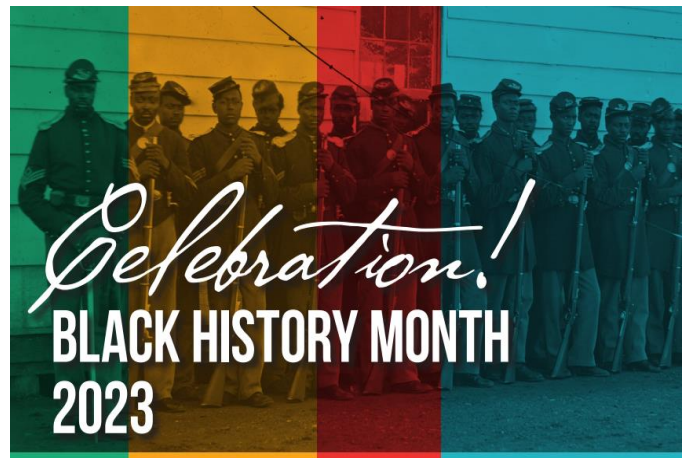
Black History Month 2023 Exhibition

Black Resistance!

Visit this month's Black History Month exhibition that highlights stories of Black resistance in Prince George's County from the era of enslavement to the Black Lives Matter movement of the present.

All ages, FREE

Montpelier Arts Center - 301-377-7800



Sunday, March 5, 2023 from 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM at the Riversdale House Museum

Women's History Month: Riversdale Chamber Music Society

Join the Riversdale Chamber Music Society for an afternoon of chamber music featuring women composers performed by the Riverdale Woodwind Trio.

All ages, FREE

4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737 - 301-864-0420

Investigate Your Ancestry

April 18, 2023 from 2pm – 3:30pm

This Genealogy Basics program will help you understand the genealogy research process and how to interpret the information you find. You will learn through hands-on examples that help you dig deeper into your family's past. You will discover where to look, who to contact, and how to make your family history come alive!

All ages, FREE

Oxon Hill Library, 6200 Oxon Hill Rd, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Take Charge of Your Health

March 11, 2023 from 3pm – 4pm

In honor of Women's History Month, the University of Maryland Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, Office of Community Outreach and Engagement will be hosting an informational session about women's health and cancer prevention. Learn about prioritizing your health and cancer screenings.

All ages, FREE

South Bowie Library, 15301 Hall Road, Bowie, Maryland, 20721



Celebrate Women's History with the County Executive



Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories

To celebrate Women's History Month, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks will host an in-person program on

Thursday, March 30, 2023

11:30am

The Hotel @UMD in College Park MD

The event will be an opportunity for honoring the Gladys Noon Spellman recipients of the public service and scholarship awards as well as saluting all the amazing women in government and the community at large.

For more information and to purchase tickets, [click here.](#)

April Is National Fair Housing Month: Housing Resources

The Prince George's County Department of Social Services provides information, assistance and referrals to County residents who are facing homelessness or an eviction.

- If you need information about Section 8 and other County housing options, please call the Department of Housing and Community Development at 301-883-5501.
- If you are facing eviction or foreclosure, you can call the Department of Social Services Homelessness Prevention Program at 301-909-6362.

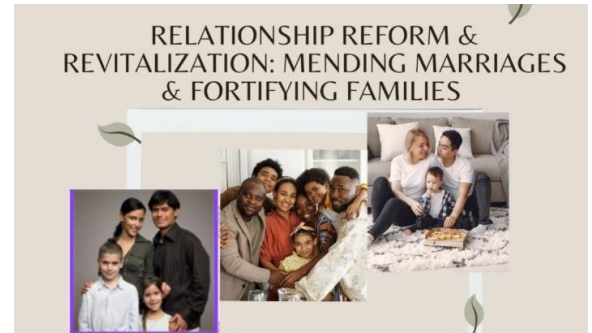
Housing Assistance Organizations

You may be eligible to receive financial help to pay your rent or mortgage if you are faced with a crisis that may result in an eviction, foreclosure or homelessness. You can also get help by calling the following organizations:

- Catholic Charities in Forestville - 301-568-9529
- Community Ministries, Seat Pleasant - 301-499-2319
- Laurel Advocacy and Referral in Laurel - 301-776-0442
- United Communities Against Poverty (UCAP) in Capitol Heights at - 301-322-5700

Past Events

The Prince George's County Commission for Women and the Commission for Fathers, Men and Boys co-hosted a panel discussion, **Relationship Reform and Revitalization: Mending Marriages and Fortifying Families**, on Monday, February 13, at 6:30 PM at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden Ministry Center in Landover. This event was free and open to the public and was designed to celebrate the joy and benefits of loving and healthy relationships.



Commissioners of the CFW attended the **Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women** Briefing, which is held to officially launch the annual Agenda and discuss the bills MLAW supports this year. The Agenda can be downloaded here: <https://mdlegagendaforwomen.files.wordpress.com/2023/02/mlaw-2023-agenda-2-1-23.pdf> and the event can be viewed on the MLAW youtube channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rxWhkGn-FQw>

Important County Services and Phone Numbers

Emergency Assistance	911
Resource Information	211
Community Crisis Services, Inc. (Emergency Shelter)	301-731-1203
Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence	800-MDHELPS (800-634-3577)
Prince George's County Sheriff's Office Domestic Violence Unit	301-780-8600
Prince George's County Police Dept. Domestic Violence Unit	301-772-4433
University of Maryland Hospital Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Center	240-677-2337
House of Ruth (24-Hour Hotline)	410-889-RUTH (410-889-7884)
Community Advocates for Family and Youth (CAFY)	301-390-4092
Prince George's County Family Justice Center	301-780-8008
Prince George's County Child & Adult Protective Services	301-909-2450

For more information on county services, including food and housing assistance, child care subsidy programs, and more, please visit: <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/2471/Women>